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SPOTLIGHT
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Senator Invites Red Saboteurs To Undersea Lab

Saboteurs and spies from Castles of the Deep spent seven days on the ocean floor aboard America's undersea laboratory, where the opportunity to play their trade was unlimited. A U.S. senator arranged for these "guests." But military leaders are shocked.

EXCLUSIVE TO SPOTLIGHT

By Walter Riley

A group of Red Cuban "scientists" invited by Sen. Lowell P. Weicker (R-Conn.) to test "fish trap devices," may have installed undersea intelligence-gathering electronics in American sea lanes off the Virgin Islands.

The SPOTLIGHT has learned from a free Cuban source that 13 Red Cubans arrived on the American island of St. Croix about 6 pm on February 23. The Cuban aircraft had departed from Santiago, Cuba around 2:15 pm the same day, a free Cuban source said.

Four divers reportedly among the 13 Cubans were to spend seven days submerged in the U.S.-owned undersea laboratory called the "Hydro-Lab Habitat." The remaining Cubans were to act as a support team on the surface. The Hydro-Lab is located in 60 feet of water near the rim of a protected cove, about 15 minutes out by motorboat from the mouth of Salt River, where the Hydro-Lab's land base is situated.

The alleged purpose of the Cuban mission was to study various types of fish and their behavior toward fish traps. After a brief period of pressurization, the four men in the lab were free to walk around on the ocean floor and conduct "experiments" they had been sent to perform. The experiments were

pre-determined in Havana and were not subject to monitoring by U.S. technicians. The same applied to the "test" equipment brought with the team from Cuba.

CUBAN MISSION COMPLETED

In a statement to The SPOTLIGHT on March 8, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) under the U.S. Department of Commerce—owner and operator of the Hydro-Lab—said the Cuban mission was completed and the team was en route back to Cuba.

The NOAA said the Cubans arrived at St. Croix on February 22 and were taken to the Hydro-Lab land base for preliminary training. The spokesman said one of the divers, Gaspar Gonzalez-Sampson, broke an eardrum during training and was replaced by Kevin McCarthy, an American diver for West In-

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